

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GABORO 01303 241307Z

46

ACTION AF-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-05 COME-00 DRC-01 RSC-01 (ISO) W

----- 001279

R 240620Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5831

UNCLAS GABORONE 1303

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, BTIO, BC

AF/S FOR SIMPSON

SUBJECT: BASKETS

1. WHILE FRANK ROSS WAS HERE HE EXPRESSED SUBSTANTIAL INTEREST IN THE BOTSWANA BASKET INDUSTRY. IT SEEMS THAT BASKETS IN GENERAL ARE ALL THE CRAZE THIS YEAR IN THE STATES, AND BOTSWANA

BASKETS IN PARTI-
CULAR ARE AMONG THE BEST AND MOST EXPENSIVE
AVAILABLE. FOR EXAMPLE, ROSS CLAIMS TO HAVE SEEN BOTSWANA
BASKETS PRICED AT DOLS50.00 IN
NEW YORK CITY, SPECIALITY SHOP,
RETAIL PRICE OF SAME BASKET GABORONE IS 2-3 RAND (DOLS3.00-4.50).

2. ROSS HAS OFFERED TO SHOW MANNATHOKO THE SHOPS SELLING

BOTSWANA BASKETS IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE INCREASED PRODUCTION AND

EXPORT OF THIS ARTISTIC HANDICRAFT ITEM.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: COULD YOU PUT MANNATHOKO IN TOUCH WITH
ROSS SO THAT DURING NEW YORK LEG OF MANNATHOKO'S ITINERARY HE
CAN BE GIVEN FIRST-HAND LOOK AT HOW U.S. MERCHANDISERS ARE
HANDLING THIS VALUABLE BOTSWANA EXPORT ITEM.
BOLEN

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Disposition Event:
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